GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:586
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2001
U.S. REPORT ON GLOBAL TERRORISM
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA;RENUKA CHOWDHURY;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government`s attention has been drawn to the latest U.S. report on global terrorism;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; (

(c) the details of terrorist outfits enumerated or referred to therein;

(d) whether some highly motivated fundamentalist Pak-Afghan terrorist outfits do not find place in the report;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government have again taken up with the U.S. Government the question of declaring Pakistan a terrorist State in light of the said U.S. report; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) Yes, Sir. Government has seen the U.S. Department of State`s annual report on Patterns of Global Terrorism for 2000, which was released in April 2001.

(b) The report contains an overview of U.S. assessment regarding terrorism in different parts of the world and on State sponsorship of terrorism. The report also has a list of terrorist groups designated under the U.S. law as `Foreign Terrorist Organisations` and a separate category called `Other Terrorist Groups`, which are kept under special scrutiny for terrorist activities and legal determination as `Foreign Terrorist Organisations`. The report, inter alia, states that the trend of terrorism shifting from the Middle East to South Asia has continued; that the Taliban continues to provide safe haven for international terrorists; and, that the Pakistan`s Military Government continued previous Pakistani Government support of the Kashmir insurgency. It also stated that United States remains concerned about reports of continued Pakistani support for the Taliban military operations in Afghanistan.

(c), (d) & (e) The report contains a list of 28 designated `Foreign Terrorist Organisations`, which includes Harkat ul Mujahideen, LTTE and Al Qaida, and 15 `Other Terrorist Groups`, including Lashkar-e-Toiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed.

(f) & (g) Government uses every opportunity to convey to the international community, including the United States, the nature, source and origin of cross border terrorism in India. Government has also set up bilateral Joint Working Groups, including with the United States, to combat terrorism. The United States designates States as sponsors of terrorism in accordance with the legal process prescribed by its domestic law. The United States has not made a legal determination in this regard for Pakistan.